

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Niel F. STARKSEN

Application No.: 10/656,797

Confirmation No.: 7101

Filed: September 4, 2003

Art Unit: 3734

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR CARDIAC  
ANNULUS STABILIZATION AND  
TREATMENT

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Examiner: K. Dowe

**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW**

MS Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to an Interview Summary mailed February 24, 2010. According to the Interview Summary, a statement of the substance of the interview is due either one (1) month from the date of the interview, which was conducted on January 29, 2010, or one (1) month from the mail date of the Interview Summary, whichever is later. Thus, a response is due on March 24, 2010. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Applicant thanks Examiners Dowe and Manahan for extending the courtesy of an in-person interview, which was had on January 29, 2010 with Applicants' representatives Mika Mayer, Niel Starksen, and Felissa Cagan. During that interview, potential amendments to independent claim 35 were discussed. The Examiners agreed that these amendments would place the present application in condition for allowance, and that these amendments would be entered via an

Examiner's Amendment. The Examiner's Amendment mailed on February 24, 2010 reflects these amendments.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 578492001500. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account. remarks

Dated: March 24, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By  
Mika Mayer

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